

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are presented for consideration, with Claims 1, 9, 17, 25 and 26 being independent.

The abstract has been replaced to better set forth the technical features of Applicant's invention.

In the claims, Claims 1, 9 and 17 have been amended to further distinguish Applicant's invention from the cited art. In addition, Claims 25 and 26 have been added to provide an additional scope of protection.

Initially, Claims 17-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 for allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. In response to this rejection, Claim 17 has been amended to recite a computer readable medium encoded with a computer program for executing a printing method. In view of these amendments, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101 is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Miyake '490. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 of Applicant's invention relates to a printing apparatus comprised of a generation unit for generating one page of a print image which is larger than one sheet of paper, and a printing unit for performing printing on one sheet of paper based on one page of the print image, which is larger than the paper and generated by the generation unit. As amended, Claim 1 sets forth that the generation unit, based on an allocation number representing the number of pages to be allocated to one sheet of paper, performs clipping to remove a portion of the print data which can be printed by the printing unit to prevent the print image of each page which is

not printed from deviating the image of each page, when a plurality of pages of print data printed on one sheet of paper are generated.

Support for the claim amendments can be found beginning on page 11, line 21 of the specification. In accordance with Claim 1 of Applicant's invention, a high performance printing apparatus is provided.

The Miyake patent relates to a print processing device that includes a print driver PD as part of a host 10, which outputs print data DG. The print data is sent to a printer 20 that includes a page printer processing controller 21.

In contrast to Claim 1, however, Miyake is not read to teach or suggest, among other features, a generation unit that performs clipping to remove a portion of the print data which can be printed to prevent the print image of each page which is not printed from deviating the image of each page. In Miyake, the print driver is said to clip pages to generate the print image to be printed, which is shown in Figure 5. As illustrated, however, this figure merely shows that a print image G1 contains original images g1-g4, and a print image G2 contains original images g5 and g6.

Independent Claims 9 and 17 relate to a printing method and a computer readable medium, respectively, and correspond to Claim 1. These claims thus also include the feature of performing clipping to remove a portion of the print data which can be printed by the printing unit to prevent the print image of each page which is not printed from deviating the image of each page. These claims are also submitted to be patentable over Miyake for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

Claims 25 and 26 relate to a print data generating apparatus and a print data generating method, respectively, and also include a clipping process to remove a portion of the print data which can be printed by the printing unit to prevent the print image of each page which is not printed from deviating the image of each page.

Accordingly, it is submitted that Applicant's invention as set forth in independent Claims 1, 9, 17, 25 and 26 is patentable over the cited art. In addition, dependent Claims 2-8, 10-16 and 18-24 set forth additional features of Applicant's invention. Independent consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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